



LEIGH
Academies Trust

Job Pack

GDPR Safeguarding Manager
Leigh Academies Trust

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in joining Leigh Academies Trust. This job pack is designed to give you a deeper understanding of who we are, what we stand for, and what you can expect as a valued member of our team.

Inside, you'll find key details about our Trust, the academy where the role is based, and the position itself. We've also included insights into our culture, values, and the many benefits of working with us. Whether you're an experienced educator or just beginning your journey in education, we hope this pack helps you see how your goals align with ours.

We're excited to learn more about you and we hope this pack helps you decide if this is the right opportunity for your next career step.

For further information and support on our hiring processes, please view our [Careers Page](#).

For any questions? Contact us on:
joinus@latrust.org.uk | 01634 412 263



Welcome from our CEO



Leigh Academies Trust (LAT) is one of the largest and most successful school groups in England. Starting in 2008 in Dartford, the Trust is now responsible for 33 academies of all types, educating over 24,000 pupils, employing almost 4,000 talented staff and with access to an annual income of over £250m. Our Ofsted track record is impressive. Currently, 56% of our academies are considered to be “Outstanding” whilst inspected as part of the Trust.

LAT has remained local with all of its academies located in the South East (Kent, Medway, Bexley and Greenwich), within a one hour drive across the South Thames Corridor. This helps us to share resources and expertise much more easily and offer abundant training and progression opportunities to staff. We invest heavily in our workforce and enjoy strong retention across all job roles. The Trust has embedded various advantages which mean that LAT is an excellent place to develop a career in education. This includes being a highly inclusive employer which celebrates the diversity of its workforce.

Our scale and experience means we have been able to develop several well-chosen approaches to running schools which we know work well. These include:

- A small school approach to education where larger academies are organised into colleges. This ensures high quality pastoral care for pupils.
- A world class digital strategy where all staff and pupils have their own device making teaching, learning and operations efficient and highly impactful.
- Disruption free learning and a “warm strict” approach to behaviour management so that teachers can teach and pupils can learn.
- An all-through International Baccalaureate curriculum equivalent in quality to some of the best fee-paying schools and grammar schools in the UK and further afield.

In addition, The Leigh Institute - which is part of LAT - is responsible for Kent and Medway Training, one of the region’s biggest initial teacher training organisations, a large teaching school hub called Thames Gateway and an accredited apprenticeship provider. This powerful organisation trains, develops and supports 1,000s of teachers, support staff and leadership teams across the region each year. Our future plans are found in our [Vision 2030](#), available on our website.

Simon Beamish, BA (Hons) MSc PGCE NPQH NLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Our Benefits

At Leigh Academies Trust, we believe that our people are our greatest asset. That's why we offer a comprehensive and competitive benefits package designed to support your wellbeing, reward your contribution, and help you thrive both professionally and personally.

From continuous professional development and career progression opportunities to flexible working arrangements, health and wellbeing support, and exclusive staff discounts - you'll find that working with us is about more than just a job.

Explore our full range of benefits here: latcareers.org.uk/benefits

Our Mission: *Education for a better world*

At Leigh Academies Trust, our vision is to transform lives through education. We strive to ensure that every young person - regardless of background - has access to an outstanding education and the opportunity to thrive in an ever-changing world.

We are guided by four core values that shape everything we do:

- **We care** – about our pupils and their families through our human scale approach to education, our staff and their well-being and the world around us, driven by our high ideals and strong moral values.
- **We have boundless ambition** – to achieve excellence for all and create confident young adults with high levels of resilience and integrity.
- **We work together** – as one team because we are greater than the sum of our parts. We foster an enterprising culture through global collaboration with partners in business and education.
- **We keep getting better** – using our 'can-do' attitude and research informed approach to continuous improvement and innovation.

This shared vision unites our academies and teams, creating a strong, collaborative environment where staff and students can flourish.



Job Description

Job Title: GDPR Safeguarding Manager

Reports to: Head of GDPR Safeguarding

Location: Leigh Academies Trust

Leigh Academies Trust is a highly successful multi-academy trust. Our model of education enables students to reach their full potential, transforming their lives and ultimately the communities in which they live.

Main purpose of role:

The GDPR Safeguarding Manager sits within the Trust's central GDPR Safeguarding team, working alongside the Head of GDPR Safeguarding, they support all the Trust's academies. The role provides central case coordination, register management, ICO reportability administration and quality assurance, ensuring that data protection casework handled across the Trust is accurate, consistent and delivered within statutory timescales.

The post-holder will support the Trust's shift from reactive case handling to proactive assurance, contributing to audits, training and policy development, and helping the Trust meet its obligations under UK GDPR, the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025.

Key responsibilities

- Handle Subject Access Requests, Freedom of Information requests and personal data breach cases as directed by the Head of GDPR Safeguarding, tracking progress against statutory deadlines.
- Maintain the Trust's central registers, including records of data processing activities, ICO registrations, breach logs and other essential documentation.
- Administer ICO reportability assessments for confirmed breaches and near misses, and support the Head of Data Safeguarding in preparing reports to the ICO where required.
- Provide quality assurance across the Trust's academies, reviewing casework for accuracy, consistency and compliance with data protection legislation and Trust procedure.
- Support the Head of Data Safeguarding in delivering the Trust's proactive programme of audits, training, self-help resources and DPIA support across all academies.
- Provide central cover and coordination during periods of Head of GDPR Safeguarding absence or vacancy, using standardised processes and shared systems to maintain service across the Trust.
- Support the investigation and management of potential data breaches, contributing to effective remediation and reporting processes.
- Support the development, implementation and continuous improvement of data protection policies, procedures and guidelines across the Trust.
- Contribute to the identification and assessment of privacy and data protection risks



associated with new or changed data processing activities.

- Maintain a thorough and up-to-date understanding of the GDPR, the Data Protection Act 2018, the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025 and relevant ICO guidance, proactively informing the Head of Data Safeguarding of key developments.
- Assist with queries from academies and colleagues, and undertake administrative tasks contributing to data safeguarding projects as required.
- Travel regularly to academies across the Trust to support casework, quality assurance and training in person.

Communication and Collaboration

- Build effective, professional relationships with the Head of GDPR Safeguarding and the wider Data Safeguarding team.
- Work closely with Academy Principals, who are each academy's designated Information Asset Owner, to support local data protection practice and accountability.
- Work with academy Local Data Officers (LDOs) to support the day-to-day handling of data protection matters at academy level, including SARs, breaches and routine queries.
- Work collaboratively with the Head of GDPR Safeguarding to ensure consistency and the sharing of best practice across the Trust.
- Proactively support the Head of GDPR Safeguarding and the wider team to ensure that data safeguarding operations support educational goals effectively.
- Support Trust-wide data safeguarding initiatives, communications and events.

Safeguarding of students and Duty of Care

All staff, regardless of role, level of seniority and location, have a responsibility to ensure the highest levels of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils, and we expect all our staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We must collectively create an environment where children feel safe to learn, play, and grow. Children should feel comfortable in their surroundings and know that they can approach any responsible adult with any problems or concerns.

All staff must be able to identify any children who are at risk of harm, and know the characteristics of abuse or neglect. If you suspect or confirm harm then it's essential you know what actions to take.

Annual safeguarding training is offered to all staff at Leigh Academies Trust, and it is the staff member's responsibility to be aware of the most up to date guidance documented in the [Keeping Children Safe in Education document \(Department of Education\)](#).

Notes

The job description allocates duties and responsibilities but does not direct the particular amount of time to be spent on carrying them out and no part of it may be so construed. This job description is not necessarily a comprehensive definition of the post. It will be reviewed at least once a year and may be subject to modification or amendment at any time after consultation with the holder of the post.



The duties may be varied to meet the changing demands of the academy/business unit at the reasonable discretion of the Principal/Academies Director. This job description does not form part of the contract of employment. It describes the way the post-holder is expected and required to perform and complete the particular duties as set out in the foregoing.



As a Trust we seek to recruit talented individuals who can not only help to build the success of our academies but also people who are engaging and passionate about everything they do.

For the role of Data Compliance Officer, we would expect candidates to demonstrate:

Qualifications

Desirable

- Certified UK GDPR Foundation course (or equivalent). If not held, a commitment to undertake as commencement of employment

Knowledge & Compliance

Essential

- Good working knowledge of the GDPR, Data Protection Act 2018, the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025 and associated processes and procedures
- Demonstrable understanding and application of data protection principles and privacy issues.
- A high level of discretion and integrity in handling sensitive personal data, ensuring confidentiality and adherence to data protection policies.

Desirable

- Experience of working in a regulatory compliance environment, preferably within the education sector or a similar complex organisation.
- Experience of coordinating casework, registers or quality assurance activity across multiple sites or teams.

Skills & Abilities

Essential

- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, with the ability to convey complex information clearly and concisely to a variety of audiences.
- Ability to liaise effectively with stakeholders of varying levels of seniority
- Proven ability to prioritise effectively, manage a diverse caseload, and work independently using initiative.
- Excellent ICT skills
- Full, valid driving licence and access to a car, as travel between academies across the Trust is required

The post holder will also be expected to undertake any other tasks as reasonably required by the line manager or Senior Leadership team to ensure the efficient and effective operation of the academy.



Apply

We're delighted that you're considering joining Leigh Academies Trust. To apply for this opportunity, please submit your online application via the job advert on our [current vacancies page](#).

We recommend taking the time to review the job description and person specification in order to also tailor your application to show how your skills and experience align with the role.

You'll need to have the following ready when applying:

- Personal details/contact information
- An up-to-date CV and/or personal statement
- Employment and education history
- Contact details for a minimum of 2 references

Join our Talent Network

If this is not quite the right opportunity for you, but you would like to stay in touch, you can join one of our Talent Networks today by [clicking here](#).

A member of the Recruitment Team will be in touch to help find the right role for you!

